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RIDE-ALONG GUSTINE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The 2012-2013 Merced County Civil Grand Jury participated in a Ride-Along with the Gustine Police Department.

During the routine patrols with the officers the following incidents occurred that demonstrated the overall effectiveness and outstanding work of the police department. These incidents included:

- An alarm at the high school.
- A traffic stop for a non-working tail light.

The Grand Jury toured the offices of the police department, and were given a thorough briefing of the policies and procedures, including the 9-1-1 and reverse 9-1-1 systems.

Dispatch for the Gustine Police Department is provided by the Livingston Police Department. Routine patrol routes covered the entire city limits. It was observed that radio reception is not available in several areas. In cases of emergency, backup is provided by other agencies such as the Newman and Patterson Police Departments, and the Merced County Sheriff's Department.

The staff was very professional, friendly and more than willing to answer all questions.

DISCLAIMER

Grand Jury reports are based on documentary evidence and the testimony of sworn or admonished witnesses, not on conjecture or opinion. However, the Grand Jury is precluded by law from disclosing such evidence except upon the specific approval of the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court, or another judge appointed by the Presiding Judge (Penal Code Sections 911, 924.1(a) and 929). Similarly, the Grand Jury is precluded by law from disclosing the identity of witnesses except upon an order of the court for narrowly defined purposes (Penal Code Sections 924.2 and 929).

This report was issued by the Grand Jury with the exception of one member who was recused due to a potential conflict of interest. That juror was excluded from all parts of the investigation, including deliberations and the making and acceptance of this report.